for the year 1985-86, and the Audit Report thereon.

(b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the paper mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in the Library. See No. LT-3999/87 for (a) and (b)]

(iii) Statement giving reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Council of Indian Medicine, New Delhi, for the year 1985-86, within the stipulated period. [Placed in the Library. See No. LT. 4000/87]

Report and Accounts (1985-86) of the Central Power Research Institute, Bangalore and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Power Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1985-86, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Institute.

(iii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above. [Placed in the Library. See No. LT-4055|87 for (i) to (iii)].

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Seventy-first Report of the Public Accounts Committee on working of a film circle.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that I have received a letter dated the 2nd March, 1987, from Shri K. L. N. Prasad to the effect that he is still under treatment in the U.S.A. and that his doctors have advised him to stay there till the middle of April. He has, therefore, requested for grant of leave of absence from all sittings of the Rajya Sabha during its current Session.

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shri K.L.N. Prasad for remaining absent from all the meetings of the House during the current Session?

[*No hon. Member dissented.*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to to remain absent is granted.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Maharashtra): Our best wishes for his speedy recovery.

THE PAYMENT OF GRATUITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1987.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ajit Jogi. He is not here. Shri J. P. Goyal.

REFERENCE TO THE MENACE OF BEGGARS AT ROAD-CROSSINGS

SHRI J. P. GOPAL (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the menace of beggars at road-crossings in various parts of the country, specially in Delhi. This menace has been on the increase. Whenever vehicles stop at the road-crossings, the beggars rush for begging. They also enter the buses. This is creating a very embarrassing situation and it may lead to a situation where it may lead to accidents. Specially before